

S. General

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4th December, 1959.

COCOM Document 3716.68/1

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

ON

ITEM 1668 - TUNGSTEN WIRE

25th and 30th November, 1959.

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Docs. Nos. 3700.5 and 8, 3716.00/1 and W.P. 1668/1.

1. All Delegations, the UNITED STATES Delegation agreeing ad referendum to the Netherlands amendment, agreed to the UNITED STATES redefinition proposal for part (c) as amended by the UNITED KINGDOM and NETHERLANDS Delegations. Part (c) would thus be redefined to read:

"(c) Tungsten wire, uncoated, except wire of a thickness not exceeding 600 microns of which the tensile strength does not exceed 35 grams per milligram per 200 mm. (140 Kg/mm²)."

2. The COMMITTEE discussed the question raised by the GERMAN Delegation as to the exact meaning of the word "wire" in this definition. Reference was made to the reply given by the UNITED KINGDOM Delegation in COCOM 3700.8 to the effect that wire meant "a rolled, drawn or extruded product of solid cross-section of any cross-sectional shape of which no cross-sectional diameter exceeds 6 mm."

3. The UNITED STATES Delegation were without final instructions in this connexion, but felt that since there was a dimensional overlap between wire and rods, it would perhaps be unwise to take dimension as the only determining factor by which to distinguish one from the other. In simple terms it might be said that rods were shipped only in straight lengths and wire in coils.

4. The GERMAN Delegation found this last United States suggestion to be the most sensible one. They considered the United Kingdom interpretation to be applicable to iron and steel but not to non-ferrous metals.

5. The NETHERLANDS Delegation agreed that a dimensional cut-off, while useful, was insufficient in itself.

6. CONCLUSION : The COMMITTEE agreed to resume study of Item 1668 during the second round of discussion only if the ad referendum agreement were not confirmed in the meantime. It also agreed that the interpretation of the word "wire" warranted further study and undertook to deal with it in the normal course of its work.

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